

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

The United States District Court for the Southern District of California has declared its desire to consider the appointment of two full-time United States Magistrate Judges, contingent upon vacancies in the office which will be created (1) should Magistrate Judge Cathy Bencivengo be confirmed as a District Judge, and (2) upon the retirement of Magistrate Judge Louisa S Porter. These positions will be based primarily in San Diego, California; however, the Southern District of California includes both San Diego and Imperial Counties.

The duties of the position are demanding and wide-ranging and vary by judicial district. The primary criminal duties include initial probable cause determinations on any complaint, information, search, seizure or arrest warrant, and handling initial appearances, including but not limited to, arraignment, bail and detention hearings, and appointment of counsel. Magistrate judges handle misdemeanor cases through plea, trial and post-trial motions. Magistrate Judges may also handle felony pleas on report and recommendation. The primary civil duties encompass full case management including but not limited to early neutral evaluations, additional meetings with parties and counsel, settlement conferences, discovery supervision, and motions and case scheduling. By consent or reference, magistrate judges also handle dispositive matters such as motions to dismiss and for summary judgment. On consent of the parties, magistrate judges may handle civil cases through trial, judgment, and post-trial motions.

The basic jurisdiction of the United States Magistrate Judge is set forth in 28 U.S.C. § 636. To be qualified for appointment, the applicant must:

1. Be a member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of a state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands of the United States at the time of appointment;
2. Have been engaged in the active practice of law for a period of at least five (5) years or have equivalent substitute experience;
3. Be competent to perform all the duties of the office; be of good moral character; be emotionally stable and mature; be committed to equal justice under the law; be in good health; be patient and courteous; and be capable of deliberation and decisiveness;
4. Be less than seventy (70) years old; and
5. Not be related by blood or marriage to a judge of the District Court.

A Merit Selection Panel composed of attorneys and other members of the community will review the applicants and recommend to the judges of the District Court in confidence the

six (6) persons whom it considers best qualified for the positions. If the vacancies in office occur as anticipated, the Court will make the appointment following an FBI full-field investigation and IRS tax check of the appointee and the Court's review and approval of the background checks. The present annual salary of the position is \$160,080, subject to periodic cost of living adjustments if authorized by law. The appointment is for a term of eight (8) years.

Application forms and further information on the magistrate judge positions may be obtained from the Court's website: www.casd.uscourts.gov. **An original and nine (9) copies of the application must be received no later than Monday, August 29, 2011.** Applications should be addressed to W. Samuel Hamrick, Jr., Clerk of Court, United States District Court, 880 Front Street, Room 4290, San Diego, CA 92101. Applications may also be personally delivered. Packages enclosing the application must be marked "Magistrate Judge Application."

Dated: July 11, 2011